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February 15, 2012

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
ON BILL 5 (2011) CD1, PROPOSED FD1 RELATING TO CITY PARKS**

Thank you Chair Martin and Council members. I am Gareth Sakakida, Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) with over 400 transportation related members throughout the state of Hawaii.

Hawaii Transportation Association opposes Bill 5 (2011).

Everyone knows how important the visitor industry is to this state and to Oahu. The Hawaii Tourism Authority and their multitude of industry partners work hard to market visitors to Hawaii, but we keep putting up fences here and there.

The visitor industry is an extremely fragile one. It does not take much to crack it, negative receptions and prohibitions gladden the hearts of our global competitors. Of all the industries our state can successfully sustain, the visitor industry is the most viable and is regarded as a clean industry.

Allowing access to our most coveted attractions for 78.5% of the time will compel the travel market to seek destinations that welcome them on a full time basis.

What are the procedures / policies that must be followed to qualify a beach park to be placed on this list of prohibited sites? Does it take one phone call, or 100, or a study of some sort?

What are the procedures / policies that must be followed to qualify a commercial activity to qualify for exception from the prohibition?

Without procedures and policies the where and the who are arbitrarily discriminated for and against.

COUNCIL
MISC. COM. 230